

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/244,304

Applicant(s)

BEACH ET AL.

Examiner

Narayanswamy Subramanian

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/5/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on July 5, 2005.

Amendments to claims 14 and 18 have been entered. Claims 12-19 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

3. The prior art of record (Anderson US Pat. No. 6,058,380) teaches a method, a computing system and a program storage device for operating an account payable computing system, including the steps of preprocessing before introduction into an accounts payable data base original electronic invoices received from a vendor to identify duplicate invoices, identifying invoices having a same vendor invoice designation, same purchase order number, and same item number, identifying duplicate invoices and introducing said original electronic invoices not identified as duplicate invoices into said accounts payable data base.

Even though, the prior art of record teaches a medical record management system and process for performing the above mentioned steps, the prior art of record fails to teach a method, a computing system and a program storage device for operating an account payable computing system, including the steps of calculating a net sum amount of items on invoices identified as having same vendor invoice designation, same purchase order number, same item number, identifying as a duplicate invoice an original electronic invoice for which said net sum amount is greater than zero and automatically communicating a duplicate invoice rejection transaction back to the vendor. For these reasons claims 12, 14-16, 18 and 19 are deemed to be allowable over the prior art of record, and claims 13 and 17 are allowed by dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee, and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled Comments on Statement of Reasons for allowance.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(a) Maners (US Patent 6,507,826 B1) (January 14, 2003) Remote Electronic Invoice Entry and Validation System and Method Therefor.

(b) Guzelsu (US Patent 6,381,587 B1) (April 30, 2002) Method and System for Standardizing and Reconciling Invoices from Vendors.

© Miksovsky et al (US Patent 5,918,216) (June 29, 1999) Automatic Recognition of Periods for Financial Transactions.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Narayanswamy Subramanian whose telephone number is (571) 272-6751. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday from 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached at (571) 272-6747. The fax number for Formal or Official faxes and Draft to the Patent Office is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

Art Unit: 3624

applications is available through Private PMR only. For more information about the PMR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dr. N. Subramanian *NS*.
September 28, 2005

VINCENT MILLIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

Vincent Millin